

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 2019

Contact: Barbara Reed

Public Information Officer

334-242-5153

barbara.reed@arts.alabama.gov



**DR. ANDREW HENLEY NAMED NEW
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE ARTS COUNCIL**

Montgomery, ALA – The Alabama State Council on the Arts is excited to announce that Dr. Andrew Henley has been selected to fill the position of Deputy Director at ASCA. He will assume this position on July 1, 2019.

Elliot Knight, ASCA's Executive Director said he is confident that Dr. Henley can make significant contributions to ASCA in the months and years to come. Dr. Knight said, *“We are glad to welcome Dr. Henley back to Alabama to join the ASCA team and I look forward to working with him to promote the arts in Alabama and help artists and arts organizations in all corners of Alabama thrive.”*

Dr. Henley is moving back to Alabama from Tacoma, Washington, where he has served as the Curator of Education and Community Engagement at the Museum of Glass since 2016. At the Museum of Glass, Henley led a team of museum professionals, artists and docents. Prior to working with the Museum of Glass, Henley served as an Education Curator at the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art at Auburn University from 2007-2016.

Dr. Henley earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Toledo in Art Education, focusing on drawing. His doctorate was earned at Auburn University, with a dissertation entitled *Adolescent Artistic Caricatures and the Sharing of Art*, which examined the social groupings related to definitions of art, and the social context of making and sharing art as interpreted by teenagers. Dr. Henley continues to pursue academic research, examining social motivations of arts engagement, attribution theories of achievement in the visual arts, philosophical challenges in museum settings, and qualitative research methods.

Museum-related projects that Dr. Henley is particularly proud of include developing extensive drop-in art classes for families with children, partnering with summer camps for individuals with special needs, and establishing a program for individuals coping with dementia-related illnesses and their care partners. His current work is related to curriculum development in relation to STEAM, therapeutic art experiences with hot glass, and exploring the intersection of technique and content in apprentice-based arts education.

Dr. Henley has served on the board of directors for Arts Ed Washington and has been involved with the National Endowment for the Arts Creative Forces pilot project, where he has worked with veterans through the Museum of Glass Hot Shop Heroes program.

Previous Deputy Director Dr. Elliot Knight became ASCA’s Executive Director on January 1, 2019 and the Deputy Director position has been vacant since that time.